

have friends; that they have people who will stand with them, even in the darkest hour; even when they walk through the valley of the shadow of death, there are friends who will stand with them. They are not alone. Come to the floor, if you choose, and make your statements known.

I do this because I understand that this opportunity to stand here is not something that I enjoy because I am so smart. There are people who lived and some who died so that I might stand in the well of the Congress of the United States of America on this day.

And because they did, it is worthy of mentioning that there were people other than African Americans who participated in my liberation. Schwerner and Goodman died fighting for the rights of African Americans. They were not Black.

John Shillady died in Austin, Texas, a field marshal for the NAACP. He was not Black.

When Rosa Parks went to jail, Virginia Durr and her husband, attorney Clifford Durr, along with Mr. Nixon, who was the then-president of the NAACP, posted her bail. Mr. Nixon was African American; the Durrs were not.

So it is important for those of us who have benefited from the goodness, the goodwill of others, to pay that debt we owe. This is an opportunity to make another installment on the debt that we owe as a result of others standing up for us. We were not alone, and the LGBTQ community should not be alone and is not alone.

So, tonight, we invite Members to come to the floor and to preface your statements with "you are not alone" and to let people know that you stand with the community in this time of great sadness, of great sadness.

But, also, speak of some of the good things that have occurred. We can talk of how the Supreme Court has made a significant difference, not only for this time but for all time, for people, because the Constitution of the United States was not written for Democrats or Republicans. It wasn't written for conservatives or liberals. It wasn't written for people of a certain hue. It wasn't written for people of a certain religion. It was written for the people of the United States of America, and that includes the LGBTQ community.

I thank you for the time. This is a to-be-continued moment. First hour after votes, to be continued.

God bless you, and God bless the United States of America. And I pledge allegiance to the flag and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, with liberty and justice for all, and that includes the LGBTQ community.

#### CI REALIGNMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HOLDING) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, when most folks hear or think about the In-

ternal Revenue Service, I am sure they probably think about the April 15 deadline. Maybe they even think about the prospects of an audit, or, in most cases, I imagine people are thinking about and wondering, you know, when is their tax refund going to be delivered?

□ 1115

Or perhaps their minds might jump to the scandals that have plagued the IRS, from the targeting of conservative groups to the IRS' failures to keep track of employee emails. Whatever the case, Mr. Speaker, I don't believe most people would immediately associate the IRS as a Federal law enforcement agency. However, the IRS is, in fact, home to our Nation's sixth largest law enforcement agency. It is called the IRS Criminal Investigation, or CI, for short.

CI was originally known as the IRS Intelligence division, and it was formed in 1919 to combat widespread corruption and organized crime. A great example of that from the early days is the investigation and conviction of Al Capone.

Now, today, CI is solely responsible for the enforcement of criminal violations of our Nation's tax laws and shares jurisdiction over violations of money laundering and bank secrecy laws. In addition, CI has also become an indispensable tool used in the investigation of terror financing cases and works jointly with many of our other Federal law enforcement agencies.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I was a United States attorney for a number of years, and I have had the privilege of working with many CI special agents and personally know the value of their unmatched financial investigatory abilities.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the IRS' mismanagement of CI and their inability to prioritize CI's needs has caused a troubling drop in the number of CI special agents and staff. This, in turn, has led to a reduction in the number of CI's investigations and convictions at a time when offenses such as identity theft, money laundering, tax fraud, and terror financing are all on the rise.

These resource decisions, along with an organizational and reporting structure at the IRS that is poorly suited to oversee a Federal law enforcement agency, have demonstrated that the IRS is ill-equipped to effectively support and manage CI.

Mr. Speaker, simply put, we need to be placing a premium on the world-class financial investigations CI carries out each day. This is why, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have recently introduced the CI Realignment Act. This legislation, which I am pleased is supported by the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, will create a new Bureau of Criminal Investigation within the Department of the Treasury by transferring CI out of the IRS.

Mr. Speaker, first and foremost, this legislation is about law enforcement. It is about the dedicated personnel at CI

that work in offices across the country and, indeed, across the world.

While this House will continue to have discussions and consider necessary reforms and legislation to right the ship over at the IRS, the CI Realignment Act is concerned with creating a clear distinction between the civil IRS function and the Federal law enforcement agency charged with criminal enforcement of our Nation's laws.

Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, my legislation will remove CI from the bureaucracy of the scandal-ridden IRS and allow for an increased focus on law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that the IRS urgently needs to address their shortfalls in many areas, from consumer service to data protection. Let's make certain that they do not further impede the critical work of our Nation's top financial investigators while they try to figure out how to run the IRS.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY UNITED STATES ARMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on this day 241 years ago, the Congress adopted the American Continental Army. This Congress resolved to raise six companies of expert riflemen and to march and join the Army near Boston.

Our Army was born in war, and to this day, it has continued its service in the defense of American liberty. Our six companies have grown to over 1 million strong. Our All-Volunteer force continues to be the example around the world, producing an image of American idealism and vision and a culture of soldiers that fight for country, the Constitution, and their fellow man.

General George Washington, during one of the Army's first battles at the 1775 Siege of Boston, articulated how I feel about the Army: "Your exertions in the cause of freedom, guided by wisdom and animated by zeal and courage, have gained you the love and confidence of your grateful countrymen; and they look to you, who are experienced veterans, and trust that you will still be the guardians of America."

These past 241 years have tried and tested our Army, from the fields of France to the deserts of Iraq and the mountains of Afghanistan. Today our soldiers are deployed in over 140 countries. Representing Fort Hood, I am aware that Fort Hood soldiers are deployed in Afghanistan and Korea in the defense of our American security. Every day I am reminded of what our men and women in uniform and their families do to protect what we hold special.

With all the focus on weapons, programs, and initiatives, it is easy to forget that the Army is about people. Looking to God, I am reminded of Isaiah 6:8: "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And

who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me.'"

On this 241st year of our Army's founding, I want to be one of the first to wish our United States Army the best and to say thank you and happy birthday. If you see a soldier anywhere today, wish the Army a happy birthday.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 22 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

#### PRAYER

Reverend Al Riddley, The Springs of Bonita Church, Bonita Springs, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, grant us the wisdom and vision to comprehend the common belief that all people shall know peace as well as justice, righteousness, freedom, and security, with equity for every culture, color, and commitment.

Remind us of the past victories while recognizing the present challenges so as to strengthen our future as a country.

Lord, on this Flag Day, as it is honored and displayed around the world, may we take pride as Americans in being reminded of the significance of our democracy.

Give guidance to us as we are diligent in our responsibilities as citizens to guarantee that freedom is enjoyed by all who claim this country as home.

In our Allegiance, we witness to "one nation under God" as a promise of what others in this world can yet become. For this, we Americans stand together today, proud and strong, both now and forever.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LANGEVIN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### WELCOMING REVEREND AL RIDDLEY

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, during morning-hour debate, I spoke about Al Riddley, who is from Springfield, Illinois, which is my hometown. He also is my brother-in-law. My sister from Springfield, Illinois, Lynn Callahan Riddley is also here. I want to welcome them to the Nation's Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, thank you very much for your courteousness to my sister and brother-in-law. I am grateful to you.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### HONORING THE FATHER OF FLAG DAY

(Mr. HULTGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the father of Flag Day, Illinois' own Dr. Bernard Cigrand, on its 100th anniversary.

An immigrant and a teacher, Dr. Cigrand believed his students needed a symbol to instill a sense of national identity. He first celebrated our flag's birthday with his students on June 14, 1885, 108 years after its official adoption by Congress.

Thus began his life's work to create a National Flag Day. He wrote articles for magazines and newspapers. He gave lectures and wrote a book on the flag's importance. Soon, schools caught on, and more than 100,000 children participated in an Illinois celebration in 1894. Eventually, Dr. Cigrand moved to Batavia, Illinois, opened a dental practice and remained passionate in his efforts.

Finally, in 1916, President Wilson called for a nationwide observance. Seventeen years after Dr. Cigrand's 1932 passing, President Truman signed a law cementing June 14 as National Flag Day.

This 14th of June, the 14th Congressional District of Illinois celebrates Dr. Cigrand's dedication to our Nation's symbol, which gives hope and moves hearts throughout the world.

#### ORLANDO NIGHTCLUB SHOOTING

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the tragic events over the weekend in Or-

lando defy comprehension. There is no way that reason can underlie this staggering loss of life, for the act itself flies in the face of reason.

My thoughts and prayers are with those who lost their lives and their families, and my thoughts and prayers are with those who were injured and are recovering from their wounds. This attack is the truest example of senseless violence and pure evil.

Today, we mourn as a Nation because we will not allow hate to invade our own hearts and minds. America is better than that.

But tomorrow, tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, and in the days and months to come, we can do something. We must do something. We must ensure that our LGBT brothers and sisters are welcomed by their communities, not subjected to discrimination. We must ensure that access to deadly weapons are sensibly controlled, and we must ensure that Congress no longer sits idly by while hate and violence continue to take innocent lives.

But, today, Mr. Speaker, we pray for Orlando, though we know our prayers, our thoughts, our moments of silence, they are not enough.

#### NAVAL STATION AT GUANTANAMO BAY

(Mr. HOLDING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, last week, The Washington Post reported that at least 12 former Guantanamo detainees, after being released, had gone on to lead and participate in attacks against Americans and allied forces in Afghanistan. And most troubling, Mr. Speaker, the report noted that these attacks cost American lives.

Mr. Speaker, the Obama administration's plan to shutter our detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and accelerate the transfer of detainees to foreign nations or even the United States is both misguided and extremely dangerous.

I am committed to preventing the closure of Guantanamo and the further transfer of detainees. Mr. Speaker, even one detainee returning to the battlefield is too many.

This administration needs to acknowledge the reality of the threat posed by these detainees and abandon their ill-advised attempt to close Guantanamo Bay.

#### KEEP DANGEROUS WEAPONS OUT OF THE HANDS OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, our hearts are broken, and we are angry. The deadliest mass shooting in our history, 49 young lives ended in a place that served as a refuge from hate, a place of love and safety and community.